



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Brian Sandoval, Governor

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director

Colleen Cripps, Ph.D., Administrator

April 7, 2014

Peggy Roefer
Regional Water Quality Manager
Southern Nevada Water Authority
P.O. Box 99954
Las Vegas, NV 89153-9954

Subject: Draft Nevada's 2012 Integrated Report

Dear Ms. Roefer:

Thank you for the comments from the Southern Nevada Water Authority (Authority) on Nevada's Draft 2012 Integrated Report (IR). The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) appreciates the Authority's data collection and compilation efforts. NDEP's response to the Authority's comment letter is provided below.

SNWA Comment: The Muddy River from Warm Springs Bridge to Glendale has been added to the 2012 Impaired Waters List (303(d) List) for selenium and fluoride. Based on the data retrieved from the Lower Colorado River Water Quality Database, we believe this listing may be based on faulty data.

NDEP Response: *As required by Clean Water Act section 303(d) and Code of Federal Regulations 130.7(B)(5), the NDEP Bureau of Water Quality Planning (BWQP) compiled and considered all readily available data in preparing the 2012 Integrated Report. In addition to the data contained in the Lower Colorado River Water Quality Database, BWQP evaluated water quality data submitted to NDEP by another entity. Considering all data available for the assessment period, the selenium acute aquatic life standard of 20 µg/l one-hour average was exceeded more than once in a 3 year period. The fluoride irrigation beneficial use standard of 2600 µg/l was exceeded in 24% of the samples. Due to these standards exceedances, NDEP will include the Muddy River from Warm Springs Bridge to Glendale in Category 5 (303(d) List) of the 2012 IR.*

Nevada's final 2012 IR has been submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval and is available at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bwqp/303dlist2012.htm>. Please contact me at (775) 687-9449 if you have any questions or would like to further discuss these matters.

Sincerely,

John O. Heggeness, Supervisor
Water Quality Standards and Monitoring
Bureau of Water Quality Planning

Cc: Dave Gaskin, P.E., Deputy Administrator, NDEP
Kathy Sertic, Chief, Bureau of Water Quality Planning, NDEP